(c) whether Government would take the help of farmers' organizations, Gram Sabhas and the private sector on establishment of such zones to herald on second green revolution in the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) No proposal for setting up of Special Agriculture Zones on the lines of Special Economic Zones has been received from Dr. M. S. Swaminathan in the Ministry of Agriculture;

Suicides in **Vidarbha**

3998. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers' suicides in Vidarbha has crossed 100 in first 40 days of 2007;

(b) what are the figures for 2007 in different parts of the country; and

(c) how much grant has been given to Maharashtra Government as a part of the package to Vidarbha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Productivity of pulses and minor cereals

3999. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to increase the productivity of pulses and minor cereals like barley, corn, bajra, etc. and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken and by when we can reach the international standards for productivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Government of India is implementing